## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant:

Nicholas Leventis et al.

Title:

METHODS AND COMPOSITIONS FOR PREPARING SILICA AEROGELS

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John M. Cooney

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MS Amendment

Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

We are transmitting herewith the following attached items (as indicated with an "X"):

X Amendment and Response (20 pgs.).

X Declaration Under 37 C.F.R. 1.132 (2 pgs.).

If not provided for in a separate paper filed herewith, Please consider this a PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME for sufficient number of months to enter these papers and please charge any additional fees or credit overpayment to Deposit Account No. 19-0743.

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CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR 1.8: The undersigned hereby certifies that this correspondence is being filed using the USPTO's electronic filing system EFS-Web, and is addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on this 1 3 day of December, 2006.

Name D. Gurpu-Wall

(GENERAL)